i$th December THE EARL OF ESSEX'S ILLNESS

Yesterday, hearing the Earl of Essex ^as desperateh s<ck, K her Majesty's command eight physicians ot the best experience assembled and consulted what might speedily recover km to health , who sent in vtriting their opinion to her Majesty sat?- scnbed by them, -which ||*SLS* that *zaUs nigis sft&ndsi $*** speranda* That these three things were recji^red. tc ha^v e iiis mind quieted, that he might take rest ^ that he might fcave recreation, that he might change the air, ior thev foiinc his hver stopped and perished, and his entrails and gji*s erulcerated so that they could not tell what now to minister but general glisters to keep him clean within

The Queen, understanding the state he was in, was -,en pensive and grieved, and sent Dr James unto ILJH with some broth Her message was that he should comfort hiinsell, and that she would, if she might with her honour, go to visxt him , and it was noted that she had water in her eyes "when she spoke it Some comfort it brought to the Earl, but it is thought and feared that it comes very late, for nature is decayed and he so feeble that to make his bed he is remo\ ed upon sheets and blankets The Queen commanded he should be remo\ed from that chamber he was in to my Lord Keeper's own chamber This afternoon a general opinion is held that he cannot bre many days, for he begins to swell, and he scours all black matter, as if the strength of nature were quite gone

i$th December A NEW PLAY

My Lord of Nottingham's men have a new play by Dekker called *The pleasant comedy of Old Fortunatus*9 being the fable of Fortunatus, who was offered six gifts bj Fortune, and choosing

wealth, she gave a purse that should never be empty, and how grievously he and his sons misused that gift.

242^ *December* BOISTEROUS WINDS.

Yesterday the wind blew west and by south, boisterous and great, where through the tops of many chimneys are overthrown, lead blown off churches, trees and barns blown down A tilt boat from London going towards Gravesend was lost against Woolwich by wilfulness of the watermen rowing against an anchor and of 30 persons, men and women, but II are saved